The toll in social and economic costs has been no less daunting through the diversion of scarce economic resources to fuel arms races, and through the lost opportunities to stimulate the political, social and economic progress that has characterized other countries in the region which have been part of the "Asian miracle".

For example, much of our attention on the security front has focussed on the tragedy of Cambodia.

But real or potential problems exist all throughout the region. In Western Asia one can point to: the Afghanistan conflict and its implications for Pakistan and US-Soviet relations; the confrontation between India and Pakistan over Kashmir; the tension between India and China on India and Nepal; the civil turmoil in Sri Lanka. In this part of the world we face the problems of Indo-China; a guerilla conflict in the Philippines; the unrest in Burma and Papua New Guinea; the potential confrontation in the South China Sea over the Spratly Islands. Further to the east are found the Soviet-Japanese disagreement over the Northern Territories and the dangerous stand-off in the Korean Peninsula.

These are all "traditional" problems of security. Others are equally pressing as was noted this morning by my colleague, Ali Alatas.

- the global environmental threats posed by ozone depletion, deforestation, marine pollution or dangerous practices such as driftnet fishing;

- the international trade in narcotic drugs;

- the threat of terrorist attack;

- the challenge to economic growth posed by protectionism;

- the abuse of human rights, the damage to democratic institution building and the associated harm to socio-economic development.